

Submitter: Helen Merrill
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

Co-Chairs and members of the committee,

I teach at a Title I school whose students have suffered the ill effects of budget cuts already. Class sizes are too large to receive the quality of education they need and deserve. Our district is now needing to make further cuts to our staffing. Please do not prioritize the ultra wealthy over my students who come from low-income families.

As our voice in Salem, we are counting on you to reject some of the most egregious and costly tax breaks for corporations and the wealthy and prevent cuts to public safety, schools, childcare, and other critical services. That begins with voting yes on SB 1507.

SB 1507 helps recoup \$311.6 million in funding for programs Oregonians care about by “disconnecting” Oregon from automatically mirroring some of the most costly tax loopholes in H.R. 1, the disastrous budget bill signed by President Trump.

To be clear, there is more work to do beyond SB 1507. There is still a larger budget gap to close, and balancing the budget by slashing programs Oregonians rely on is the wrong approach. But one thing is certain: passing SB 1507 is a critical first step in addressing the budget crisis created by H.R. 1.

The decision before you and your colleagues this session should be clear: Prioritize protecting Oregon families, not further enriching the ultra-wealthy.

Please vote YES on SB 1507.

Thank you.